

# Mountain View



*A newsletter by and for the Randolph Community, published by the Randolph Foundation*

## Election Results for the Town of Randolph

Despite the fact that there were no lines at the polls in Randolph, NH on November 4, 89% of registered voters participated in the historic election of 2008. The following election results were recorded by Anne Kenison, Town Clerk.

### President of the United States of America

John McCain	84	Barack Obama	165
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### Governor of New Hampshire

Joe Kenney	55	John Lynch	175
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### United States Senate

John E. Sununu	95	Jeanne Shaheen	147
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### United States House Representative

Jennifer Horn	77	Paul Hodes	156
Chester Lapointe	3		

### Executive Councilor

Raymond Burton	162	Mike Cauble	63
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### State Senator

John Gallus	99	Martha S. McLeod	135
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### State Representatives (4)

William "Bill" Rimick	89	Troy E. Merner	109
"Herb" D. Richardson	81	Scott Merrick	137
John E. Tholl	69	Evalyn Merrick	127
Charles D. Bond	72	John R. Roberge	139

### Coös County Attorney

Keith W. Clouatre	96	Robert Mekeel	114
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### Sheriff

Gerald Marcou Jr.	218
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### Coös County Treasurer

Ryan W. King, Sr.	215
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### Coös County Register of Deeds

Carole Lamirande	216
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### Coös County Register of Probate

Terri L. Peterson	217
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Rita and Bob Savage give a friendly Randolph wave before entering town hall on Election Day. Photo: D. Aube

## Moose Plate grant; Town records to be preserved, digitized

*By Edith Tucker*

Fragile and hard-to-access town records with fading ink will soon be available on DVDs, providing historians and genealogists with an easy way to learn about local history.

Nearly \$10,000 in "moose plate" funds was awarded to the town of Randolph at the Oct. 8 meeting of Governor and Council to preserve and digitize hand-written town records kept from shortly after its incorporation in 1824 through the early 1900s.

Eight journals will be conserved, microfilmed, and rebound at a cost of \$7,112 and then stored in the new environmentally controlled archive room in the renovated and expanded Randolph Town Hall, a project sparked by a \$500,000 gift from Hershner Cross of Randolph.

The microfilm of these volumes, and previously generated microfilm, will be converted to TFF and PDF formats to allow copies to be available in both the town library and town offices, significantly enhancing public

*See "Moose Plate", page 3 ....*

Meeting notices, inquiries, comments, and ideas are welcomed and encouraged. Please send materials for the *Mountain View* to Diana Aube, Nekel Lane, Randolph, NH 03593 or daube@ne.rr.com by the 15th of the month preceding publication (publication is quarterly: September, December, April & June). The *Randolph Weekly* is published weekly in July & August. Send notices by Tuesday of each week to Gail Scott at 603-466-5498 (call or FAX); or mscott1@ne.rr.com; or 162 Randolph Hill Road, Randolph NH 03593. The *Blizzard* is published the first of each month except July and August. Please send all notices for the *Blizzard* to Barbara Arnold, 466-2438; barnold@ne.rr.com or 403 Randolph Hill Road, Randolph, NH 03593. *Blizzard* materials by the 24th of the preceding month. If you are not receiving the *Blizzard* and wish to, please let Barbara know. A grant from the Randolph Foundation makes all these publications possible.

**Mountain View Publications**

Randolph Foundation  
PO Box 283  
Gorham, NH 03581

Laurie Archambault, Publisher

Diana (Dede) Aube, Editor

Barbara Arnold, Design / Production

**Town Directory**

<b>AMBULANCE</b>	<b>911</b>
<b>BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT</b> (Chair, Ted Wier)	466-3970
meets at 7 PM the 3rd Thursday of the month.	
<b>BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> (Chair, Ken Lee)	466-2392
Secretary, Rodney Hayes; Treasurer Connie Chaffee	
Meets at 7 p.m. at Town Hall every other Monday, call for schedule.	466-5771
<b>BUILDING PERMITS.</b> See Board of Selectmen	
<b>CEMETERY TRUSTEES</b> Jim Baldwin, Suzanne Santos & Steve Hartman	
<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b> (Chair, Jim Meiklejohn)	466-3818
<b>DOG LICENSES</b> See Town Clerk. Obtain or renew by the end of April.	
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT - ALL ALARMS - CALL 911</b>	
Randolph Chief, Dana Horne	
<b>FOREST FIRE WARDEN</b> (Rebecca Parker) Call for Burning Permits	466-2332
<b>GRS COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD</b> Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of the month; location alternates between the 3 towns. Contact the SAU Office	466-3632
<b>LIBRARY</b> (Librarian, Yvonne Jenkins)	466-5408
Open Mon. 10 – noon; Wed. 3 -8 p.m., Thur. 3-8 p.m.; Sat. 10 –noon; trustees meet the 3rd Mon. of each month	
<b>LIFELINE</b> (Jean Malick)	466-2547
<b>PLANNING BOARD</b> (Chair, John Scarinza)	466-5775
Meets at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall on the first Thursday of the month.	
<b>PLATFORM TENNIS ASSOC.</b> (President, Craig Malick)	466-2547
<b>POLICE</b> (Randolph Chief, Alan Lowe)	466-3950
<b>RANDOLPH CHURCH</b> (Moderator William May)	
Sunday morning services July & August (10:30 a.m.).	
<b>RANDOLPH COLLOQUY</b> (Bea Alexander)	466-3881
<b>RANDOLPH COMMUNITY FOREST COMMISSION</b> (chair, John Scarinza)	466-5775
Meets at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall on the 1st Wednesday	
<b>RANDOLPH FOUNDATION</b> (President, Cathy McDowell)	466-5105
<b>RANDOLPH LIFE SQUAD — Call 911 in an emergency</b>	
Co-Directors Bill & Barbara Arnold	466-2438
<b>RANDOLPH MOUNTAIN CLUB</b> (President, Michelle Cormier)	466-5841
<b>ROAD AGENT</b> (Mike Gray)	586-7840
<b>SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST</b>	
Denise Demers, Michael Sewick & Angela Chakalis-Pfeffer	
<b>TAX COLLECTOR</b> (Scott Robinson) by appointment; call the Town Hall	466-9856
<b>TOWN CLERK</b> (Anne Kenison)	466-2606
Town Hall hours: Mondays 9 - 11 a.m. ; Wednesdays 7 - 9 p.m.	
<b>TOWN HALL</b> (Secretary, Rodney Hayes) Mon. - Fri.; 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	466-5771
<b>TRASH COLLECTION</b> Must be at roadside by 7 a.m.	
Trash - every Tuesday; Recycling, sorted & bagged - 1st Thursday of every month.	
<b>TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUND</b> Judy Kenison, Michelle Cormier, Michael Sewick	

**Community Calendar**

(NOTE: For recurring meeting schedules see "Town Directory" on the left)

**December**

- 13 Town Christmas Party, Town Hall 6:00 PM
- 21 First Day of winter
- 19 Caroling Party at the Hunt's, Randolph Hill Road; 6:45 PM for Carolers; 8:30 for Non-Carolers
- 22 Hanukkah
- GRS School Vacation
- 24 Christmas Eve Carol Service, Randolph Church, 4 PM
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26 Kwanzaa begins
- 31 New Year's Eve

**January**

- 1 New Years Day
- 5 GRS Schools Re-open
- 14 Opera Series, FMI call 466-5408
- 15 Opera Series
- 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; GRS schools closed
- 28 Opera Series, FMI call 466-5408
- 28 Opera Series

**February**

- 14 Valentine's Day
- 16 President's Day
- 23 - 27 School Vacation
- 25 Opera Series, FMI call 466-5408
- 26 Opera Series

Dates to be announced in the Blizzard: RMC's Cabin Fever Reliever Square Dance

**March**

- 7 Sledding party & Bonfire
- 8 Daylight Savings begins
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20 First Day of spring
- 10 Town Meeting

Dates to be announced in the Blizzard: Pot Luck Supper

*"Moose Plate", continued .....*

access to these historical and genealogical resources," explained project director Ken Lee, chairman of the board of selectmen. The conversion will cost \$2,500. All other efforts to carry out the project will be made by volunteers, including indexing the newly digitized records.

"These journals provide irreplaceable information regarding the people who have settled in Randolph and have worked the land and the forests," Mr. Lee wrote in the lengthy photograph studded grant application. "They also provide information relating to the way the land was used in the mountain valley, including the consolidation of lands by large timber companies, the rise of summer hotels and their spin-off summer cottages, and the establishment of the White Mountain National Forest (following passage of the Weeks Act of 1911)."

The project is a continuation of one undertaken in the mid-1990s by a volunteer subcommittee of the Randolph Foundation, a community-based charitable foundation established in 1962. The subcommittee worked with records that had been retrieved in the mid-1970s from several private homes where town officials had kept them in the days before a small office wing was added to Town Hall.

During the inventory-taking process these records were sorted to acid-free boxes. Working with Brown's River Bindery in Essex Jct., Vt., the records, many with fading ink, were evaluated and four volumes selected for preservation by disassembly, de-acidification, microfilming, and either rebinding or placement in Mylar sleeves. A century's worth of town reports were also microfilmed

and bound.

The Randolph Foundation town funds and private donations paid for this lengthy project. An archive room was built when Town Hall was renovated and expanded in 2007-2008. Under a grant from the N.H. Vital Records Preservation program, consultant Cynthia Swank, a Certified Archivist (CA) and Certified Records Manager (CRM) of the In-look Group of Portsmouth, provided advice on its requirements and design. A second-round grant from that same program provided monies to help pay for the archive room's environmental monitoring and temperature and humidity control equipment as well as steel shelving, and a volume of vital records in especially poor condition was also preserved.

This latest project includes having all the digital information copied onto DVDs, which can easily be duplicated to send out to research sites and for use by genealogists and historians.

The exact dollar amount authorized by Governor and Council was \$9,612, all raised under the state's Conservation Number Plate program that allows state residents to have a moose image on their license plate by voluntarily paying an annual extra \$30 fee, plus a one-time \$8 charge. The "moose plate" program funds various projects recommended by several state agencies.

State Librarian Michael York and Commissioner Van McLeod of the state Department of Cultural Resources recommended this project to Governor and Council.

*Reprinted courtesy of the Coos County Democrat,  
Oct.15, 2008*



This Fall, Ingrid Graff lead a group of Edward Fenn Elementary students to Mossy Glen to build fairy houses. B. Arnold photo.

## Colloquy 2008

By Julie Barrows

Enhanced by the new library and town hall, this past summer's colloquy was exceptional. The new format included two book discussion groups and two lectures by authors of interest to Randolph readers. Special thanks go to Bea Alexander and her committee for arranging such an appealing and interesting program.

The book discussion groups were held in the White Mountain Room of the new library which comfortably held about twenty people. Our first book was *The Whistling Season*, by Ivan Doig. Doig is a former ranch hand, newspaper man, and magazine editor and prolific writer of American West fiction. Many of us had the pleasure of reading his literature for the first time. The second book, *Mayflower: A Story of Courage and Community*, by Nathaniel Philbrick is a stirring and fresh account of the Pilgrims, beginning with their voyage of the Mayflower, including their efforts to co-exist with Native Americans and concluding 56 years later with King Philip's War.

Two well attended evening slide-show lectures were held in the new Cross Memorial Room of the town hall. Howard Frank Mosher gave a delightful, humorous talk about his evolution as a writer starting with his first job as a teacher in Vermont. A year later, believing there was no future for him in teaching, Howard and his young wife headed for California. At a stoplight in Hollywood a fellow pulled up beside him, noticed his Vermont license plates, and told him to get back to Vermont while he still could! Howard took this advice and thus became the great chronicler of the Northern Kingdom with such celebrated books as *Where the Rivers Flow North*, *A Stranger in the Kingdom*, and *On Kingdom Mountain*.

Historian, Dr. Allan V. Koop of Dartmouth College, used slides to illustrate his book *Stark Decency: German Prisoners of War in a New England Village*. This World War II prisoner-of-war camp for German soldiers was located in Stark New Hampshire where the prisoners worked as loggers and eventually touched the lives of the guards and the citizens in this minuscule northern town. Professor Koop showed pictures of the camp and prisoners, and told of his efforts, over many years, to contact the former prisoners and arrange a reunion for them in Stark. Koop provided an interesting and sometimes humorous local glimpse of World War II history.

## Used Clothing and Shoes

Many of us have items of good clothing that are no longer used. We have clothes stored in closets or attics that we don't know what to do with. Alan and Lucille Lowe have offered a simple solution. They have placed a Planet Aid yellow box in front of their gas station. Used clothing and shoes are collected and recycled. Donated Items are resold by Planet Aid and proceeds are used to support education, community development and HIV/AIDS programs in Africa and Asia.

Planet Aid is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the environment and creating sustainable development in Africa and Asia. Planet Aid partners with individuals, schools, organizations, companies and government agencies to inform about and contribute to community based development. To get a tax-deductible receipt for your donation email: [info@planetaid.org](mailto:info@planetaid.org)

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## Real Estate Transactions

### August 11, 2008

From: Aimee Young Hopkins

To: Craig Harrison and Aimee Young Hopkins, co-trustees of the Hopkins Living Trust; Quitclaim

### September 29, 2008

From: Horton Guyford Stever, Jr.

To: Horton Guyford Stever Jr. Trustee of the Stever-Nusman Family Trust; Quitclaim

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## Building Permits

- 09-22 Robert and Donna Harris will add a wood shed  
10-27 Jeffery Parker will remodel and expand

### REMINDER

*Randolph property owners are responsible for ensuring that they or their builders receive any necessary permits before beginning any construction. Building permits must be approved by the Selectmen. The Selectmen need time to review all permits, so please remember to submit them early enough to allow that process.*



## Excerpts from the 1908 portion of the *Diaries of Eldena Leighton Hunt*

### Part 4: October through December

By Al Hudson

10-1-08: "... Cold east wind. The men churned this forenoon and dug ditch behind the house. This afternoon they took in the beets and parsnips and part of the carrots ... Hunting season opens today. Walter Simonds is having a "live bear hunt" at 50 cents per shot, best shot gets the bear."

10-2-08: "... Arthur has been digging ditch in the cattle shed. Awful hard digging. Mother and I have mended most of the time ... I picked two great bunches of dahlias tonight, for fear they would be frozen in the morning. My dahlias have been beautiful for the last three or four weeks."

10-3-08: "... Ground froze last night, and Adams and Madison are white with snow. Charlie [Hunt] and Arthur dug ditch in the barnyard this forenoon. They struck some rocks that will have to be blasted. Charlie pulled the turnips and put part of them in the cellar this afternoon. Arthur went to Gorham with the hayrack and carried the doctor's white potatoes, and brought back our water pipe and fittings."

10-5-08: "... We did two weeks wash. Arthur and Charlie dug ditch in the barnyard and up to the road. Charlie Hunt is digging potatoes for Charlie Lowe. Clarence [Buzzell] has begun on his [ditch contract] job."

10-7-08: "... Charlie Benson, [Charles] Hobbs' plumber, came up and worked on the water pipe, laying and fitting it. The pipe comes into the kitchen. We think we shall move the sink from the pantry into the kitchen."

10-8-08: "... Arthur and Charlie finished digging the ditch back of the barn and across the road, and blasted twice in the barnyard. Irving [Leighton] finished digging his potatoes. He had about 220 bushels of assorted ones. Half the crop is Arthur's. Mrs. [Caroline] Cohen and Miss [Augusta] Mordecai came in this afternoon for their last bread and butter, as they leave Randolph tomorrow ... There is another crew moving into the woods above here to log for the B.M. [Berlin Mills] Co. The Fullers have been in for several weeks."

10-10-08: "... The men are digging the ditch from Lowe's line to the end of the pipe in front of Lowe's house ... Dr. [William Gray] Nowell and Mrs. Cohen's maid went away from the Mt. Crescent this morning. City people are all gone from

the Hill now."

10-13-08: "... Hooray! The water is running at last. Arthur went to Gorham this forenoon and got pipe, and Charlie Lowe helped him connect it this afternoon. The water comes into the kitchen with a faucet, from there it goes into a half hogs-head in the cattle shed, and from there into a tub in the lane and then away on top of the ground. If only it does not freeze up this winter it will be grand."

10-14-08: "... The men have been covering pipe ... Mother and I went down in the Schaufler pasture this afternoon looking for our cats. We found them, all three, but couldn't get them home. There is another fire started on Mt. Hayes."

10-16-08: "... Arthur went to Gorham. He carried twelve of the fowl to Libby's, and the doctor has a chicken every week ... The fire on Mt. Hayes has spread like everything."

10-19-08: "... The men have carted dirt all day. Been banking up the house this afternoon. Churned."

10-21-08: "... The men have hauled out dressing. Charlie and Tom [Berry] finished up tonight and have gone home. Pretty smoky. The fire on Mt. Hayes has spread awfully."

10-22-08: "... Arthur threshed the beans. He has an idea that some of his beans have walked off, so he has put locks on the barn doors ... When we got up from supper we discovered a fire near the Ice Gulch where McEwen logged last winter. It is burning furiously and is spreading fast. There is danger that it may come this way. If we could only have rain."

10-23-08: "... The fire raged all night and all day. It has burned over a big territory. It doesn't seem to be coming this way, but is climbing toward the top of the mountain [Mt. Crescent] and working down the valley in the direction of "Jimtown" ... This morning they [B.M. Co.] sent a big crew of men into the woods to fight the fire."

10-24-08: "... Another crew of men went into the woods this morning to fight the fire. About two hundred men in all are fighting it, and they are getting it under control."

10-25-08: "... The Ice Gulch fire isn't burning very badly on this side of the mountain, but it is going down the other side into the Ammonoosuc

See, "Diaries", page 6 ....

"Diaries", from page 5 ....

valley. There is a terrible fire over near Berlin, a part of the Mt. Hayes fire, I expect."

10-28-08: "... Arthur has plowed. Churned this forenoon ... Pearl and Mildred [Lowe] came down after some cabbages this forenoon. Arthur and I gathered all our apples after dinner."

10-30-08: "... Is snowing tonight, the first snow we have had. We have had to take our plants all in the house from the piazza ... Arthur finished plowing. He has done a lot of it this fall."

11-1-08: "... Arthur has been out looking for the sheep. Father and Arthur got the chickens into the hen house tonight."

11-3-08: "... Arthur went to the Town Hall and voted ... Arthur went up to the new dam this afternoon. Had a letter from Mr. [William O.] Pray asking him to look it over."

11-4-08: "... Heard that William Bryan was defeated by William Taft. New Hampshire has gone Republican, as usual."

11-5-08 "... Arthur and I went upstairs to sleep last night. It was getting too cold in the downstairs bedroom."

11-7-08: "... Gorham voted for [liquor] license this year. Only one other license town in the county and that is Stewartstown."

11-8-08: "... Tom Malloy came up and traded for two of our cows - the red one and the belted heifer. He gives in return a new sleigh and \$25. We have to sell the cows or buy hay."

11-15-08: "... Arthur has been out deer hunting, but didn't see anything."

11-19-08: "... Snowed some more. We washed ... Arthur went rabbit hunting this afternoon and scared up two deer."

11-20-08: "... We dressed off six roosters. Charlie Wilson came up and borrowed our steelyards to weigh a deer. They have got three (or more) ... Arthur went deer hunting today and got a rabbit."

11-22-08: "... Arthur and I went to the P.O. in the new sleigh. Not very good sleighing today, the snow is melting so fast ... Mother got two numbers of The Delineator [women's magazine published 1873-1937] today. Think Mrs. [Jennie] Combe is sending it."

11-24-08: "... Arthur stopped at Frank Wood's and got a pig. It weighed 46 pounds and he paid \$4 for it."

11-26-08: "... Thanksgiving Day. Charlie Wilson came up and brought us a piece of Venison. Arthur and I went up to Charlie Hunt's to dinner. Gene [Hunt], Nora and all the children but Ralph were there."

12-1-08: "... Arthur churned all day, and mother and I finished up this evening. It was past nine o'clock when we got the butter taken care of."

12-2-08: "... Awful cold. We washed, but couldn't put only a part of the clothes out to dry. Arthur has been chopping wood."

12-4-08: "... Churned today. Mother warmed the cream to 72° and the butter came very quickly. We dressed off four chickens."

12-5-08: "... Arthur went to Gorham. He carried a load of potatoes, butter, eggs and chickens - between 14 and 15 dollars worth in all."

12-8-08: "... There is quite a lot of snow now. Arthur has been in the woods chopping ... Newell [Augherton] was here this evening, and we played cards."

12-10-08: "... Arthur hauled Newell and Cora [Lowe Augherton]'s furniture to the Crossing. They have gone to keeping house in Deacon [Ithiel] Scates'es rent."

12-13-08: "... There is a great deal of excitement around here over an article in Success Magazine by Robert Schauffler. It is called "The Country Preacher's Wherewithal", and it is written about the churches of Gorham, although fictitious names are used. Gorham people are considerably wrought up about it. We are expecting an article about our family in the next number of the magazine."



Hunt Success Magazine cover, January 1909. Issue contains the Robert Schauffler article "Making ends meet on a New England Farm"

*"Diaries", continued ...*

12-14-08: "... Charlie Wilson is cutting wood for the Boothmans. Mother and Arthur salted part of the pork last evening and finished it this evening. I sewed some."

12-16-08: "... Arthur's tooth ached so last night that he didn't sleep a bit, so as soon as he got the morning chores done [he] went to Berlin and had the tooth taken out."

12-18-08: "... Arthur hauled another load of his logs to the mill. I cleaned. Mother made pumpkin pies and tried out the leaf lard - about 20 pounds of it ... Papers report an earthquake last week."

12-21-08: "... Arthur went to Gorham [and] carried a load of potatoes, butter, eggs, chicken and lamb pelts. Irving brought down the January number of Success Magazine tonight. It contains Mr. [Robert] Schauffler's article, "Making Ends Meet on a New England Farm". The article is interesting to us, as it is all about our family and our struggle to "Make ends meet" on the farm. Of course our names are not used, but in the story we are the Badger family, consisting of "Pa" and "Ma" Badger, the son-in-law Asa Judd, and his wife. Taken altogether it does not give a very glowing account of farm life."

12-22-08: "... Arthur went up to Charlie [Hunt]'s this afternoon and got a side of beef that he had

bought [from] him. On his way home he took a load of ice from the Ravine House Pond and hauled it to the Mt. Crescent for Charlie Lowe."

12-25-08: "... Christmas Day. A real nice day. Arthur hauled two loads of ice for Charlie. We all had some Christmas presents ... Mother and I dressed off five roosters. Arthur killed his old Rhode Island Red."

12-26-08: "... Charlie Lowe has hauled three loads [of ice], broke his sled, got stuck with a load, had a runaway, and hurt his hand. Mother and I dressed off five hens."

12-27-08: "... Arthur carried ten bushels of potatoes up to Vyron [Lowe] this afternoon. He carried our spinning wheel up to Laura [Hunt], and brought the cider mill home."

12-29-08: "... Irving, Arthur and Charlie Wilson broke out the winter road this forenoon. The main road was getting drifted in places ..."

12-30-08: "... Pretty good this forenoon, but a Carter Notch gale blowing this afternoon and evening. Arthur hauled a load of ice for Charlie this forenoon, and a load for himself this afternoon ... Irving had a bad attack with his heart last night. Uncle Ingals [Leighton] came down after nine o'clock and had Arthur go down to the main road to meet the doctor and pilot him up over the road. Irving was better this morning."



**Bringing Hay Correction:** This photo is part of the **Charles S. Flagg collection**, and was provided courtesy of the Flagg Archive and **not** part of the Beringer archives, as was noted in the fall edition of the Mountain View. This is actually one of the photos used in the 1906 Randolph Library Calendar that was devoted entirely to photos from the Charles Flagg collection.

"Bringing in the Hay, 1905" From the left: Charles Flagg, Marion Flagg, Anna Flagg, Ella Bowker, George Flagg, Granville Flagg, unidentified woman, and Arthur Hunt.

## Randolph Church Receives Award

*By Harriet Baldwin*

On October 25, 2008 Coös County Family Health Services recognized the Randolph Church with a Community Service Award in acknowledgment of donations to them administered by the Benevolence Committee of the Church. The Randolph Church was built in 1884 and served the community year-round until the 1940s when it was reorganized. For many years, the church gave funds to charitable organizations. Churches use the term "benevolences" for such gifts. A new Benevolence Committee was appointed by the church in the early 1990's. This committee studied the church's benevolence program and the many needs of the Berlin-Gorham community. It recommended that the church increase its funds for benevolences and designate them for human service agencies in the Gorham-Berlin area.

Every summer, members of the Benevolence Committee identify and visit the agencies that will receive funds. Agencies are asked to use these funds for direct services and to report how the funds are spent. Otherwise, the funds are unrestricted. At several of the church services a member of the committee describes the work of an identified agency to the congregation. Also, twice each summer, a representative of an identified agency meets with the congregation after a Sunday service in order to explain the agency's work.

The Randolph Church has given funds to many human service agencies in the Berlin-Gorham area. It has given consistently to Coös County Family Health Services, Gorham Community Learning Center, The Family Resource Center in Gorham, and Northern Human Services in Berlin. It has also given to the Berlin/Gorham Food Bank, Berlin/Gorham Hospice, WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) and several of the programs developed by Tri-County Community Action Program. (Currently the Alzheimer's Health Care Program). The total amount given each year has grown from \$3,000 in 1994 to \$13,000 in 2008.



Randolph Church Benevolence  
Accept Award: Left Angela Pfeffer,  
Chairperson, Benevolence Committee,  
Marie Beringer and Adele Woods from  
Coös County Family Health Services

## Open Positions for the March, 2009 Town Elections

The filing period is January 21 through January 30, 2009 at 5:00 PM. The following town positions are open:

1 Selectman	3 year term
1 Town Clerk	3 year term
1 Treasurer	1 year term
1 Auditor	2 year term
1 Cemetery Trustee	3 year term
1 Trustee of the Trust Funds	3 year term
2 Planning Board	3 year term
1 Library Trustee	3 year term
2 Board of Adjustment	3 year term
2 Conservation Commissioners	3 yr. Appointed
1 Town Forest	3 yr. Appointed
1 North Country Council	3 yr. Appointed





Randolph Library Circulation Desk  
Volunteer, Joan Rising works at the circulation desk that was built by Larry Jenkins with wood from the Randolph Forests.  
Photo: D. Aube

## Randolph Calendars

There are still a few 2009 Calendars, displaying reproductions of Mary Perkins Osgood's Randolph Wildflowers, available for purchase. These will make wonderful holiday gifts. The cost is 15.00 each plus \$1.50 to mail. Contact Sandy Wier at 603-466-3970, or email [tswier@ncia.net](mailto:tswier@ncia.net)

## Interested in Bridge?

Beginners through advanced players are welcome. Contact Jean Malick, 466-2547 for more information.

## News from the Randolph Public Library

By Meg Meiklejohn

A handsome circulation desk, built by Larry Jenkins with wood from the Town Forest, is the latest addition to the new library. The shelves are used to display some of the new books that have recently been added to the collection, including the following titles from bestseller lists: *Hot, Flat and Crowded*, by Thomas L. Friedman; *Unpacking the Boxes*, by Donald Hall; *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*, by David Wroblewski; *Dewey* (the story of a library cat), by Vicki Myron; *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein and *The Road*, by Cormack McCarthy. Several audio books have also been added to the collection, and puzzles for library or home use are now available.

Thanks are due to the many people who continue to donate books, audio books and videos. Because of their generosity, the Library has an impressive range of materials to offer its patrons. One gift book that deserves special mention is *Wildlands Philanthropy: the Great American Tradition*, a fine-looking volume with beautiful photographs of natural areas that have been permanently protected for future generations thanks to the generous philanthropists whose stories are told. The book is a gift from the Foundation for Deep Ecology and Brad Meiklejohn.

The library has been busy during its first months of year-round operation, with the major attractions being computers and Fred Hubbard's collection of over 500 DVD's. Arlene Eisenberg is the coordinator for a group of loyal volunteers who help to keep the Library open 14 hours each week. Please call Arlene (466-5168) if you would like to be a volunteer. No previous library experience is required and training is available.

The first program of the winter season sponsored by the Friends of the Library was a pot-luck supper in Town Hall followed by a sing-a-long and showing of the movie "The Sound of Music". The popular event was one of several that have been planned by the Friends group. Bob Kruszyna is leading a series of lectures on the subject of Opera. The first sessions will be held on December 3 & 4 but there will be other sessions offered throughout the winter. More information is available at the library.

## Carnegie Mellon Names 'Green' Dorm in Honor of H. Guyford Stever, Sr.

*By Teresa Thomas*

*Guy Stever Sr. was honored as a past president of Carnegie Mellon University through the naming of the nation's first green dorm, now called Stever House. Although he wasn't able to attend (he watched on a webcast), his granddaughter Kasey Stever - as a member of the graduating class of 2008 was able to accept the honor.*

The man who helped to create Carnegie Mellon University will have a building named after him. Carnegie Mellon has named a first-year residence hall in honor of H. Guyford Stever, the university's fifth president. At the school's 1967 commencement, it was Stever who announced the formation of Carnegie Mellon University as a result of a merger between the Carnegie Institute of Technology and the Mellon Institute of Research.

Some 41 years later, Carnegie Mellon President Jared Cohon told the Class of 2008 that New House, the nation's first "green" dormitory, would become Stever House. "Carnegie Mellon and the nation owe President Stever an enormous debt of gratitude," Cohon said, referencing Stever's accomplishments in both science and academics. "President Stever oversaw the complex transition to Carnegie Mellon University with his characteristic thoughtfulness and effectiveness, setting the stage for the university's growth and achievement ever since."

Stever also led the creation of the Department (now School) of Computer Science and the School of Urban and Public Affairs (now the H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management), two programs significant to Carnegie Mellon's core.

Stever House is notable for being the first dormitory in the nation to be certified for its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED from the U.S. Green Building Council). It has a "silver" LEED designation because of its low environmental impact in both construction and function.

"It is fitting to associate Dad's service with a living experience such as Stever House," Stever's son, Roy said. The relationship is twofold, Roy Stever explained; his father is passionate about environmental change, and he is enthusiastic about the university's success in community-oriented dorms like Stever House.

"The late 1960s and early 1970s were not comfortable times for college presidents, nor faculty and students," Roy Stever continued. "The commitment

to listen to all voices has clearly flourished at Carnegie Mellon over the years."

"The naming of Stever House came as a huge surprise to me and my family. It is a tremendous honor and something we are all very proud to be a part of," said Kasey Stever, who accepted the honor on behalf of her grandfather and their family during commencement on May 18. A member of Carnegie Mellon's Class of 2008, Kasey Stever earned an industrial design degree.

In addition to serving seven years as president of Carnegie Mellon, Stever was the director of the National Science Foundation, was the Presidential Science Advisor to Gerald Ford, and was a leader in the development of the nation's space program. Stever also is a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences. He won the National Medal of Science in 1991 and the Vannevar Bush Award in 1997, which are among the nation's highest honors for scientific work in public service.

About Carnegie Mellon: Carnegie Mellon is a private research university with a distinctive mix of programs in engineering, computer science, robotics, business, public policy, fine arts and the humanities. More than 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students receive an education characterized by its focus on creating and implementing solutions for real problems, interdisciplinary collaboration, and innovation. A small student-to-faculty ratio provides an opportunity for close interaction between students and professors. While technology is pervasive on its 144-acre Pittsburgh campus, Carnegie Mellon is also distinctive among leading research universities for the world-renowned programs in its College of Fine Arts. A global university, Carnegie Mellon has campuses in Silicon Valley, Calif., and Qatar, and programs in Asia, Australia and Europe. For more, see [www.cmu.edu](http://www.cmu.edu).SOURCE Carnegie Mellon University

*Press release reprinted courtesy of Teresa Thomas of Carnegie Mellon University*



From left to right: Will, Debbie, Kasey, Roy and Natalie Stever  
Photographer: Ken Andreyo, Carnegie Mellon University

## Vehicle Registration

The town clerk, Anne Kenison announces that there will be a \$3.00 increase per vehicle registration due to an increase in fees for municipal agents doing this work. The new fee includes \$.50 that will cover town expenses for paper, ink, etc. This increase will be in effect as of January 1, 2009.

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## They don't make 'em like they used to...Old Wheels in Randolph!

*By Keith Dempster*

The old car hobby may not be as well-known as some other pastimes, but for a few Randolphians the collecting of, tinkering with, and tooling about in our 4-wheeled relics is a fond and favorite distraction. And though the warm-weather driving season may be short, there's still plenty to keep us occupied with our garage-bound treasures while the snow flies.

It's not as though you just get in and turn the key; finding, restoring and maintaining these reminders of the past can often absorb a lot of spare time, and involve some dead end parts-sleuthing, dirty fingernails, and head-scratching frustration. But it all seems worth it when the old chariot is looking great and running well, and you get the thumbs-up from passersby as you're on the way to an evening cruise-in or weekend competition. Whether it's two dozen on Gorham common, or eight hundred at Stowe, there's a gathering somewhere every week, and good reason to get out on our beautiful back roads, meet fellow devotees, get and give compliments and pointers, and maybe, lord save us, spot that next one that we've just got

to have in the collection.

And for those of us with an archaeological bent, the collector car hobby offers an absorbing look back at an industry that once held center stage in our economy and popular culture.

### Hi, I'm looking for....

Need a tie rod end for your '56? Chances are your dealer's parts counter (if, indeed, there is a dealer) won't be of much help. Ditto the local auto parts store. But the task of tracking down what you need is made easier by the well-known fact that many people never throw anything away. Somewhere out there, perhaps still in the manufacturer's original box, someone has it. In the past, the process of putting the two of you together often involved the "bible" of the hobby, a phonebook size publication called Hemmings that was, and still is, compiled right here in New England. The Internet has now greatly foreshortened the blizzard of phone messaging, letters and SASE's that used to

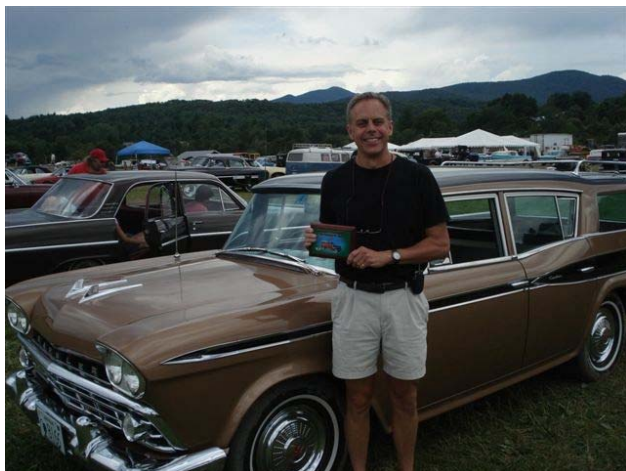
*See "Old Cars", next page ....*



accompany the detective work. Google, e-bay, and the website hosted by your marquee's owners club are all invaluable tools to help you get back on the road.

### And Best of Show goes to...

There is no friendlier stranger than a fellow car-nut, and throughout the summer and fall, New England is replete with opportunities to get together, and be part of the good-natured judging and competition. Occasionally, especially in uncooperative weather, there are as many trophies as entrants, but many shows attract a broad cross-section of the hobby, and a "win" is a satisfying affirmation that you've pulled up in something that other folks enjoyed seeing. Some of the popular events in our area every year include July 4<sup>th</sup> on Gorham Common; opening night at Lancaster Fair; Fall Foliage weekend at Littleton; and a September gathering in North Conway.



Keith Dempster and Rosie the Rambler; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place at Stowe, 2008  
Photo provided by Keith Dempster

### Who's Got What in Randolph

Some of us go to every cruise-in; others didn't get out much this year. But we've all got our toys for a reason, and here's a look at what you'll find in some of the garages (and on the roads) of Randolph.

The sight of Alan and Lucille Lowe's matching green-and-white classics parked out on the apron by the pumps is familiar to many, although the two of them (the cars that is) haven't been out together in awhile now. Lucille's 1959 Nash Metropolitan

was once the Connecticut-based "city car" belonging to summer resident Genevieve Adams. Alan's father, Gordon, bought the little two-seater, stashed it in the barn, and nine years hence, presented it to his daughter in law on her birthday. Meanwhile, Alan had acquired his 1955 Ford Crown Victoria, a 2-door coupe complete with "continental kit" spare. Repainted in period-correct green and white, both cars were daily summertime drivers, and frequent participants in the show circuit. Lucille's Met is once more in hibernation (along with a few more belonging to the Lowe & Santos clans) but the Crown Vic was back on the road this season.

Rich Wallingford and Jerry Hamanne, owners of The Inn at Bowman, can lay claim to the largest, and most diverse collection here in town. The prize of the fleet is "Misty", a 1930 Model A that Jerry acquired from a friend in Gorham as a gift to Rich. The Model A is an icon of today's show circuit, and its introduction in 1927, replacing the archaic Model T, marked one of several "save the company" turning points for Ford Motor. It was offered in an astounding array of body styles, the snappiest of which is Rich's rumble-seat roadster. "Misty" underwent a winter-long restoration in the big garage behind the Inn, and emerged last spring, peppy and resplendent in new paint and with rebuilt engine. Other cars in Rich and Jerry's collection include a gleaming black 1963 Cadillac Coupe de Ville, and a 1953 Studebaker sedan, notable for its 40,000 miles and original green paint.

Brian Taylor can remember the day that his grandmother took delivery of the turquoise 1959 Pontiac Catalina that's still in his care today. And some of us (whew, am I dating myself?) can remember the signs to the east and west of the driveway, along then-US2, announcing "Margaret Taylor Weaves & Tweeds—Just Ahead," that invited customers to her shop. The 4-door Pontiac with the capacious trunk was just the ticket for Mrs. Taylor's annual pilgrimages from Randolph to Florida with her wares, yarns and loom stashed onboard. Some other Randolphians, including Morrison Reed and the Lowes, have also logged hours behind the wheel, assisting Mrs. Taylor in her travels. Brian recalls that as a teenager he was forbidden to test the performance limits of the 4-barrel 389 V8 —a proscription, together with a cosmetic restoration he undertook a few years ago, may account for the extraordinary condition of the car today.

*"Old Cars", continued ...*



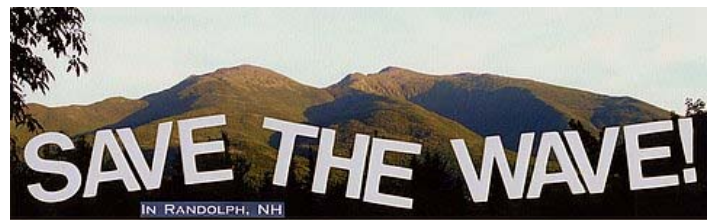
Jack Stewart took this picture when the SAAB was brand new.

Up on the hill, Bill and Barbara Arnold are the proud owners of another car with a lifelong Randolph connection. Forty years ago, a SAAB (denoting the Swedish firm Svenska Aeroplan AB) was a fairly unusual sight on US highways, and Bill's V-4 SAAB 96 Deluxe is thus a survivor of a rare breed. The Deluxe (owing to its radio and chrome trim) was originally owned by Jack Stewart, who brought the bright red sedan each summer from Virginia. (It was a close fit; the driver's side headliner still bears the imprint of Jack's head!) Bill acquired the car about a dozen years ago, and travels occasionally to cruise-ins and gatherings of SAAB enthusiasts. Safely ensconced in the Arnold's garage/shop building, the SAAB continues its lifetime avoidance of Randolph winters, and should need no more than Bill's mechanical ministrations to stay in top form.

The two vehicles in our collection have neither family nor Randolph connections; both purchases were long-distance acquisitions via e-bay. On the face of it, this approach may seem of dubious merit, (and indeed, there's a past transaction we'd just as soon forget) but with the additional infusion of time, effort, and, oh yes money, we're pretty happy with the results. Our 1957 Chrysler hardtop and 1959 Rambler wagon are both of the era of pushbuttons and tailfins, but they also illustrate a divergence then underway in the industry. "Longer, lower, wider" was the automotive mantra of the Big Three- GM, Ford and Chrysler, in the mid-1950's, along with extensive and costly annual restyling. For American Motors, this exercise was simply out of reach, and Company Chairman, George Romney (yes, that Romney), noting the quiet advance of a small, bee-

tle-shaped import from Germany, decided to take a chance. For 1958, he discontinued his line of large cars, focusing entirely on a single nameplate: Rambler. Romney's timing couldn't have been better; 1958 turned into a recession year, and sales of AMC's compact, inexpensive Rambler quadrupled. We've heard the echo of that popularity all summer, from the show circuit, to Shaw's parking lot, in the exclamation "Gee! I remember when my father/granddad/Uncle Max had one of those!"

With the passing of another season, most of us have long since pulled out batteries, put in fuel stabilizer, and otherwise prepared our summer toys for hibernation. Some will snooze undisturbed until next spring; others will have various ills attended to on long winter evenings and weekends. But we look forward to next spring, when, a year older and all the more remarkable—the cars, that is—we can again give the Randolph Wave as we cruise by!



**Save the Wave Bumper Stickers**, hand printed by Bill Minifie, are still available at Lowe's Garage for \$3.00. Fifty cents of each purchase will go to the Randolph Foundation



## Lotusland, Part 1 of 3

By Robert Krusyna  
June 4, 2008

In the beginning, there was the **bud of the lotus**. Its roots grow in the muck and mire at the bottom of a pool of stagnant water. Its stem protrudes through the water's surface into the fresh clean air above. As the sun's rays strike it, its petals unfold into a gorgeous blossom. This symbolism pervades the religious art of South Asia, from India to Indochina serving as an apt metaphor for the human struggle for existence on a higher spiritual plain. We live in the muck and mire of daily life, prisoners of our desires and animal instincts. But multitudes believe it is possible to rise to a purer sphere and flower into an exalted state - call it nirvana, salvation, eternal nothingness, paradise, or whatever.

In Luang Prabang, the ancient capital of the Laotian people, we walked around a tepid pond full of lotuses reaching up and opening to the early morning sun. We passed on to a nearby shrine to look at a statue of the Buddha, shown at the moment of his Enlightenment. He sat serenely under an actual bodhi tree, as did the historical Buddha (Gautama), his eyes half-closed, his legs folded under him, his left hand cupped in his lap, and his right resting on his calf. In front and below stood the "earth goddess", bearing witness to his attainment of nirvana. On the other side of the shrine enclosure rose a stupa, a dome-shaped structure purportedly containing a relic of the Buddha - perhaps a piece of nail or hair. (There seems a "genetic predisposition" across peoples and places to deal with similar questions in a similar manner, i.e., Buddhist stupas housing holy relics versus Christian church crypts doing likewise, for example, a fragment of the "true cross".)

Buddhism arose as a sect of Hinduism with the teachings of Gautama Buddha around 600 BC. While Hinduism has a multiplicity of gods and demons, Buddhism in principle has none. It is only a set of precepts to eliminate suffering (which results from desire) and achieve Enlightenment. Contrary to popular belief, the Buddha is not a god, although in actual practice he is worshiped in Buddhist communities. He is merely a prophet along the lines of Mohammed in Islam.

From the Buddha's homeland in northern India, his message slowly spread in two directions: to South-east Asia and north to China (during the Tang dynasty, ca. 600 - 900 AD) and into Mongolia and Si-

beria, until there were no more inhabitants to adopt it. Then it reflected back through western China into the Himalayan regions - Tibet, Bhutan, Nepal, etc. It was completely changed by passing through the Chinese sensibility. All the Hindu elements were expunged. Mahayana Buddhism ("greater vehicle", i.e. liberal or reform), today usually known as "Tibetan Buddhism", was the result, even though it did not catch on for long in China. Chinese emperors suppressed Buddhism because its monasteries were becoming too rich and were diverting money from the royal treasury.

Our recent travels took us in the opposite direction, to the predominantly Buddhist countries of South-east Asia: Thailand, Myanmar (Burma), Laos, and Cambodia. Here the religion belongs to the other major branch, Therevada (or Hinayana), the "lesser vehicle", i.e. conservative and basic. (Because of the proximity and influence of China, Vietnam adopted the Mahayana variety.) Although there are numerous differences between the two schools, the fundamental one is that Therevada emphasizes enlightenment through good works while Mahayana emphasizes faith. Another, more practical difference, which struck us forcefully, was the retention in the Therevada school of numerous Hindu elements. Indeed, at many temples, shrines, and monuments, it was hard to tell the difference.

Although our trip with Archeological Tours included sites in Thailand, Bangkok itself was not on the itinerary (other than staying at the airport hotel between flights). I arranged a brief trip to the city of Bangkok because we wanted our traveling companions, the Sandersons, to see some of the tourist venues we visited in 1970. Everything had changed dramatically, including the huge, brand-new airport complex and a modern elevated expressway á la Los Angeles leading into the heart of the city. Most of the former canals which once constituted the transportation network had been filled in and paved over. Thailand benefited enormously in terms of modernization by aiding us during the Vietnam War.

The shrines and temples in the old city remained pretty much as we remembered them. In 1970, I borrowed a tripod to photograph the "Golden Buddha" in the dark temple where it resided -

See "Lotus Blossom", next page ....

*"Lotus Blossom", continued ...*

hardly necessary as the statue radiated its own inner light. Imagine a young, handsome, athletic figure sitting cross-legged in the Enlightenment posture; no puffy, slant-eyed Chinese Buddha here. Imagine further that the Buddha is ten feet high (sitting) and weighs ten thousand pounds of solid gold. Interestingly my 1970 Kodachrome photograph is far superior to any I took on this excursion with my high-tech digital camera.

In contrast to this shining specimen lies the "reclining Buddha" of Wat Pho, scarcely fitting into the temple at 150 feet long and 50 feet high. It depicts the "death of the Buddha", which is incorrectly described in travel books and scholarly articles as his entry into nirvana. In fact, he had reached enlightenment much earlier, but decided to remain in this life to help guide others on the path to nirvana. This huge statue commemorates his physical death. It also illustrates another aspect of Theravada Buddhism. Almost all of its images concentrate on incidents in the life of the historical Buddha in a similar fashion to the Gospels in the case of Christ, whereas Mahayana Buddhism is concerned with other deities (Bodhisattvas) and other myths and legends, beyond the Buddha himself. Indeed, the most revered deity in Tibetan Buddhism is the Bodhisattva of Compassion as reincarnated in the present Dalai Lama.

We took a ferry across the Mae Nam Chao Phraya, a major river teeming with all sorts of watercraft, from floating vegetable markets to oil tankers. It bifurcates the city and remains Bangkok's principal commercial artery. On the west bank stands a most unusual shrine, Wat Arun, the "broken china" temple. This wat is actually a stupa; that is, it has no interior space. Sitting atop the domed base rises a tower some 250 feet high, in the shape of an idealized **lotus bud** (or an erect phallus, for the symbols are often interchanged, especially in Hinduism). Even more striking, is the exterior decoration which consists of pieces of broken porcelain arranged in various colorful designs. In past centuries, Chinese vessels coming to Bangkok to take on cargo arrived with "broken china" as ballast, which the Siamese cleverly used as decoration.

Our trip, entitled "Khmer Kingdoms", was intended primarily to visit the ruins of the Khmer civilization

which, centered in the Angkor complex in Cambodia, dominated Southeast Asia from about 800 AD to 1400 AD. But it was impossible to separate and isolate it from the historical and current importance of religion, both Hindu and Buddhist. Thus the huge amount of information we received did not form a coherent story; there was no thread, just bits and pieces as unfortunately, is often the case with this article.

The original proto-Khmer civilization was situated in the delta region of the Mekong River (now in Vietnam) as a way-station for sea trade between India and China. Goods were shipped across the Bay of Bengal, carried across the Malay Peninsula to the Gulf of Siam, and put on vessels sailing the South China Sea to ports in southern China, and vice-versa. This route avoided going around via Singapore and the Strait of Malacca, both a long way and a perilous one, because of the danger of shipwreck in the narrow passage and of pirates. As a result of this trade, the Khmer people were subjected to influences from the more advanced societies of China and in particular, India. In the early centuries AD, Hinduism gradually became the principal religion and Sanskrit the language of the elite (analogous to French in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Russia). Because their coastal cities were vulnerable to attack and invasion, over time the Khmers moved their capital farther inland, ultimately ending in the heartland north of the Tonle Sap, a huge inland lake of more than 1000 square miles. Here in 600 AD King Jayavarman II declared himself universal monarch and began the development of the stupendous political-religious complex called Angkor. For some 800 years, subsequent rulers added buildings, public works like reservoirs, and shrines which were intended to demonstrate their connection to the divine. In the meantime, they expanded the territory of the Khmer empire to include most of present-day Cambodia, to the south and east parts of Laos and Vietnam, and a considerable area of central Siam (Thailand) to the north. We visited Khmer sites as far afield as Wat Phu on the Mekong near the Thai-Laos border, Phimai in central Thailand, nearly 200 miles from Angkor, and Phnom Rung, on the ancient paved(!) road connecting Phimai to Angkor.

*Editor's note: please see photo of a lotus bud on page 17.*

## My Mont Blanc

*by Martha B. Mermier*

Western Europe's highest peak is the Mont Blanc, at 15,771 feet. It is located in Chamonix, France. I was a student, during my junior year, in Geneva Switzerland. I used to marvel at this magnificent mountain when it would occasionally appear on the horizon over the lake of Geneva. It is 51 miles away from Geneva so the day had to be crystal clear to see the summit. At this point in my life, I never really thought of climbing it, but one year later, when I was with a friend doing some hiking and a little rock climbing in Chamonix, we decided to try for the top. My climbing experience involved only the White Mountains, never any high altitude climbing. I was unaware that this mountain could be dangerous for many reasons, including high winds, sudden fog and rapid changes in weather. There are many people each year who have died from climbing accidents on Mont Blanc. Had we known this fact, perhaps we would have decided against attempting the summit. We went ahead, however, and rented crampons, "piolets," and hired a guide.

At least we knew that we were in good hands with our guide, Raymond Lambert. He was a highly respected guide who had survived a serious accident in 1938. During a sudden storm he became trapped in a crevasse for five days. As a result of this ordeal, he lost the tips of four fingers and all of his toes. Despite these injuries, he continued to guide at the highest levels, wearing specially designed climbing boots. It was he with the Sherpa, Tensing, who made the summit attempt with the Swiss expedition in 1952 to Everest. They came within 800 vertical feet of the summit, but had to turn back because of the weather. A year later Tensing and Hillary were the first to reach the summit.

As for our climb up the Mont Blanc, we did it in two days spending the first night in a shelter just below the snow line. I think there is now a better building for climbers. When we were there we had bunks for sleeping, but no water or cooking facilities. Lambert woke us up in the middle of the night and helped us attach our crampons and ropes. The hike to the summit is not technically difficult; it sim-

ply requires a fair amount of endurance. Fortunately we had a clear night and when we reached the summit, dawn was just breaking. The view was breathtakingly beautiful. There were the lights of Europe below and endless ranges of mountains in the distance. This will always be a very special memory for me.

Descending the mountain is always somewhat of an anticlimax. We did it in one day, sometimes skiing on our boots with the "piolet" as a rudder. The fact we had perfect weather and were led by a renowned guide made it a great climb. (See photo taken of the summit. I am standing next to Lambert who is on the left.)

I did this climb in my twenties. In my sixties, I did another hike connected with the Mont Blanc, called the Tour du Mont Blanc. Instead of summiting the mountain, this famous circular route starts in France, and then goes into Italy, Switzerland and back into France. One circles the Mont Blanc on well indicated trails marked by TMB, standing for Tour du Mont Blanc. I did this excursion in 1995 when we were living in Aix-en-Provence. At that time, my husband, Guy, was directing the Junior Year Abroad Program for the universities of Michigan and Wisconsin. While he was organizing the students in the fall, a friend and I joined a mountain travel group. We did this trip in eleven days, stopping in mountain inns and "rifugis" along the way. The climbing was relatively easy, although, we crossed many high mountain passes. The views of the alpine meadows and glaciers were splendid. We frequently saw the summit of the Mt. Blanc, reminding me of my previous wonderful experience forty years ago.

Over the years, I have climbed with Guy, and sometimes our daughters in the French Alps, the Alps of Switzerland and Austria, the Sandias, the Rocky Mountains, the Southern Alps of New Zealand and the Himalayas' with the Meiklehohns. I think my first love remains the Mont Blanc, aptly described by Lord Byron as "the monarch of mountains". My summers in Randolph are what nurtured my love for these high places.



Auvie and Judy Kenison celebrate 50 years of marriage on November 8, 2008 at the Randolph Town Hall. Photo: D. Aube



Lotus Blossom  
Photo by: Robert Krusyna



Guide, Roland Lambert (left) next to Martha Mermier and unknown persons on the summit of Mont Blanc.  
Photo provided by Martha Mermier

*Happy Holidays to one  
and all from the staff of  
the Mountain View!*



Mt. Madison Frost  
Photo: Larry Jenkins

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